

Tyler Junior College News

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Thursday, October 26, 1995

Homecoming traditions flourish

Carla Bass
Staff Writer

As the Homecoming 1995 "Vision Quest" draws to a close Saturday, so will a week filled with searching the past for time-honored traditions and peering into the future for new horizons.

Students rallied to keep old traditions alive, such as trying to beat the huge wooden drum 24-hours-a-day from Monday morning until the start of the football game.

"It's important for any institution, and for student life in general, that traditions be preserved," Student Activities Director Scott Nalley said. "The chimes and lights we recently installed in Ramey Tower represent an old tradition we have brought back."

Other traditions, such as constructing floats for a homecoming parade and building static displays, have fallen by the wayside due to increased demand on the average student's time.

"Our students are getting older and they have families, jobs and kids. We have to change our traditions to reflect the demographics," Nalley said.

This year's logo for

"Vision Quest," a seated Native American gazing into a sunset, is an alteration in tradition reflecting increased cultural awareness. The Apache mascot used to wear a full war bonnet until the historically-correct single-feather depiction was adopted in the early 1980's.

"It's important for any institution, and for student life in general, that traditions be preserved," Nalley said.

"We like to have a theme that relates to Native Americans because I think it helps provide an awareness of this heritage," Nalley said.

One old tradition that takes on new twists every year is the Campus Capers. Comedian Renee Hicks will return for the second year to lead this talent show at 7 p.m. tonight in Wise Auditorium.

Approximately 10 contestants will compete for \$600 in scholarships on "amateur night" during the approximately two-hour program. Hicks, who hosted last year's

Campus Capers on her "Bald Ambition Tour," will also entertain the crowd during Capers II at 7 p.m. Friday. Approximately 12 professional contestants will compete for scholarships during "professional night."

The Homecoming Court, made up of some 20 students nominated by campus clubs and organizations, will make their debut at Campus Capers I. At Campus Capers II, the top nominees chosen by a student vote Monday and Tuesday will be announced.

After judges view campus buildings decorated by clubs and organizations, all nominees will be presented and the top five and the Most Beautiful and Most Handsome will be announced during a midnight pep rally at Windsor Plaza. Rain location for the pep rally is Wagstaff Gym.

Homecoming week will wrap up as the football team faces Trinity Valley Community College at 3 p.m. Saturday at Rose Stadium. Pre-game, the top five members of the Homecoming Court, the Most Beautiful, Most Handsome and the King and Queen will be presented.

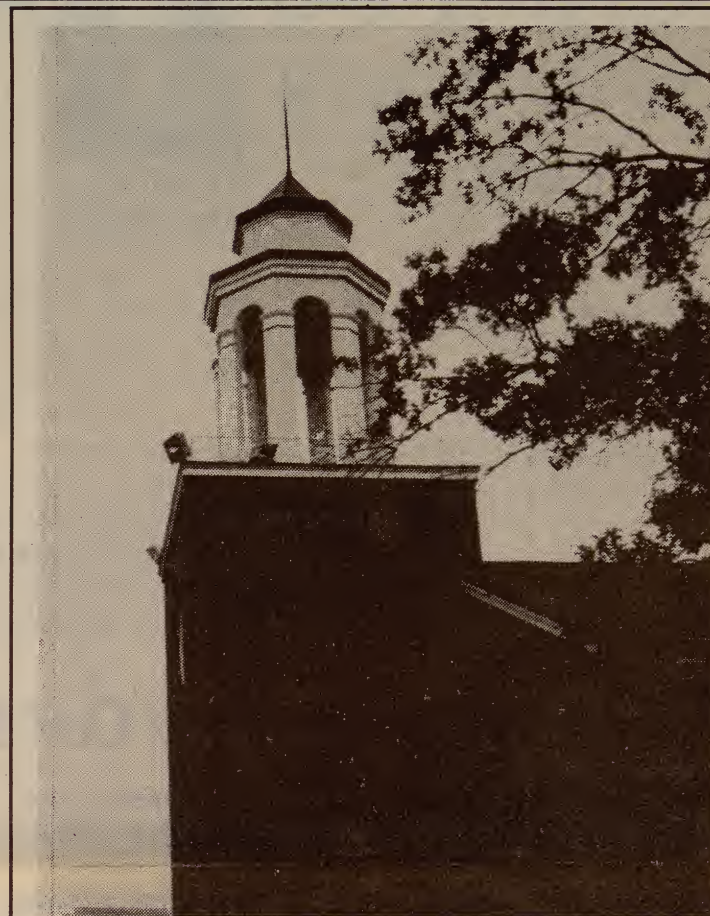


Photo by Carla Bass

TOWER TALKS - Ramey Tower chimes out every hour and plays songs. See related story page 3.

Early intervention aims for faster communication

Jamie Melton
Staff Writer

Mid-term grades are no longer sent home to students. A new program called early intervention will replace the old grade reports.

TJC President Dr. William Crowe and the Faculty Senate created the program to inform students in danger of failing at the end of each week, Admissions Dean Kenneth Lewis said.

The letter, Faculty Senate President Christopher Smith said, is designed to notify students of their options. It is not to hurt the students or "baby them," but to "increase the knowledge of help available."

Compared to the old system, the Senate agreed, this would more efficient.

"The [old] practice is not as

beneficial as the money put into it," Smith said. Most people feel strongly this is a more beneficial means."

Besides the cost, students' complaints about being notified too late in the semester gave the ideas for a new policy.

"Most of the time, 10 weeks is too late for a student to be notified," Lewis said. "By that time, that semester is lost."

He said most parents seemed to be impressed with the new policy.

Junior Nursing Major Michelle Jones disagreed. As a tutor herself, she believes students are aware of their progress in a course. Most just will not take the initiative to help themselves, she said.

See Intervention page 3

CAMPUS CAPERS I & II

7 p.m. Tonight and Tomorrow at Wise Auditorium

MIDNIGHT PEP RALLY

Midnight Friday at Windsor Plaza

HOMECOMING GAME

TJC vs. TVCC

3 p.m. Saturday at Rose Stadium

Presentation of the Royal Court

CAMPUS F • O • C • U • S

Misty Cranfill
Staff Writer

*"How do you celebrate
Halloween?"*



Freshman
Alma Alvarado

"All I do is sit at home and watch scary movies and give kids candy."



Freshman
Corey Smith

"We usually go to parties, have fun and go trick-or-treating for girls."



Sophomore
Denise Hewitt

"We usually go to a carnival or trick-or-treating. I have four kids, so we also have a lot of Halloween parties."



Freshman
Sam Richmond

"We usually just get drunk and throw eggs."



Sophomore
Jimmy Bennett

"I put on a 60s' fro wig and hand out like Dolomite. This year I might try Superfly though."

Minority students want diverse faculty

Tiffany O'Neal
Staff Writer

Minority students realize TJC has few minority instructors. Minority students say they would like to have instructors who can relate to their individual needs and help them understand their heritage. They are not trying to get special attention or have someone treat them better than anyone else.

"We see a lot of minorities doing janitorial work and working in the cafeteria, and there is nothing wrong with that. We should see the same amount teaching the students, doing seminars and holding upper positions here as well,"

Sophomore Jermetra Allmonsaid. Some students believe this is a serious problem.

For TJC to have as many blacks as they do, it looks like a serious problem when we can count the black instructors on one, maybe two hands," Freshman LaToya Jackson said.

A lot of people agree with Jackson.

Sociology instructor Shirley Bishop said, "We do have a mechanism at TJC that was put into place several years ago. This was designed specifically to recruit minority faculty and staff focusing on blacks and Hispanics. Unfortunately it doesn't appear that the process is working adequately or as it was originally designed to work."

Human Resources Director Linda Fleet said out of 202 instructors, 12 of them are minorities and minority hiring has been an issue for TJC for a while.

Preliminary full-time enrollment figures show that out of 7,823 students enrolled, 1,257 are blacks and 272 are Hispanics.

Increasing minority employees was part of a federally mandated plan. Now the state has continued this plan.

"Texas Educational Opportu-

nity Plan for Higher Education" shows TJC had a headcount enrollment increase of five percent and enrolled a greater percentage of black students than any of the other 48 public community and technical colleges in Texas.

They also enrolled twice as many first-time, full-time black freshman as any other Texas community college. Hispanic students have also increased both in enrollment and graduation.

"TJC has a significantly higher retention rate of all students, as

well as black students, with an exceptionally higher retention rate percentage of black males," Fleet said.

This new six-year plan for 1995 to 2001 sets goals for employment, enrollment and retention of black and Hispanic students and faculty.

"All faculty positions are advertised nationally. In order to get the job, it depends on who applies and who is qualified for the job," Fleet said. "The goal for the faculty is to reflect the student body."

Photos spotlight African-Americans

Willa Waddy
Staff Writer

Portraits of a Community, an exhibition of tintypes and photographs organized by Documentary Arts, Inc. of Dallas, continues until Sunday at the Tyler Museum of Art.

The exhibit of photographs collected from around the state focus on African-Americans who started their careers in the 1930s and 1940s. The images capture a range of life from domestic to historic—weddings, funerals, family portraits and civic events.

One featured photographer, Marion Butts from Tunis in Burleson County moved to Dallas in 1941. Butts was the managing editor of the Dallas Express from 1954 to 1962. His 1965 photograph of an NAACP picket still has the power and emotion of the moment past.

Earl Hudnall Jr's "Lady in Plaid Skirt, Houston, Texas 1990" achieves a remarkable evocative statement with a traditional pose, New TMA Director Wendell Ott said.

A Tyler resident, Curtis Humphrey was born in Dirgin

in Rusk County in 1907 and worked as a farmer and handy man in East Texas until he moved to Fort Worth in 1932 where he learned photography. Humphrey taught photography at Wiley College in Marshall and Texas College in Tyler in the late 40s.

Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Exhibitions are free. The Museum is located on the east side of the campus of TJC. Visitor parking is adjacent the Museum.

Tyler Junior College News

The Tyler Junior College News is published by journalism students every other week except during holidays and exams. Opinions expressed in the News are not necessarily those of the staff, adviser or administration.

The News accepts letters to the editor from the college community for possible publication. Letters must be signed and include writer's address and telephone number. Advertising and letters must be addressed to: TJC News, P.O. Box 9020, Tyler, TX 75711. The editors reserve the right to select and edit letters in accordance with college policy, legal requirements and length.

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Students collect coats for needy kids of all ages

Connie Conner
Staff Writer

TJC is doing its part for "Coats for Kids." Rebecca Foster, TJC Volunteer Association Faculty Advisor, has reported a record breaking number of warm coats collected for the kids.

The goal for the collection was 500 coats. More than 300 have already been

turned in and she expects the other 200 to be in by Thursday's 9:30 deadline.

"One student turned in 15 coats," Foster said. She also commended Phi Theta Kappa and Las Mascaras for their contributions.

This drive is the organ-

ization's biggest of the year. TJC's deadline has passed, but PATH still takes contributions. "Kids need coats," Foster said.

TJCVA is a student organization which encom-

passes students from 18 to 60. Although the organization is only two years old,

it has made a great impact on the community and the students involved. Their motto is "When you give help you give hope."

The next project on TJCVA's agenda is a canned food drive. The drive will begin Wednesday, Nov. 1.

*Their motto is
"When you give help
you give hope."*



Photo by Connie Conner

COATS COMING IN - Coats collected by TJC Volunteer Association will bring warmth and comfort to needy children in the Tyler area. Coats and sweaters in sizes from infants to adult may be taken to Tyler dry cleaners for distribution to needy families through PATH.

Intervention

Continued from Page 1

"Students need to take responsibility for their own grades. Teachers shouldn't baby them," Jones said.

Sophomore Jephunah Smith, computer science and engineering major, said students need to "grow up."

"It gears back towards high school," Smith said. "[The letters] tell you you are doing poorly in a class—that is high school. We are not in high school now. They are taking the general action of the government and sticking their noses where they don't belong."

Lewis said the system is designed to help students by giving them more responsibility, because students who are not failing must keep up with their own grades.

"I see it as a step towards maturity because that is what a junior college is," English Instructor Judith Caswell said.

Caswell said she will continue to average her students' grades and open them to the

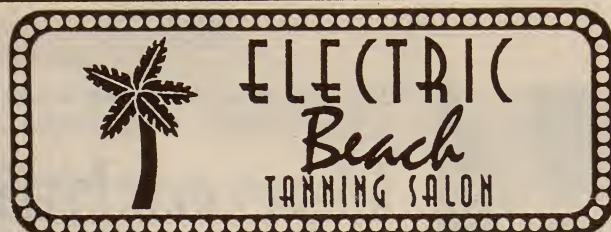
students, but they will not be required to see them.

Jones said she did not like the idea of grades being mailed to the permanent address rather than the student's dorm. She said the best way to handle the situation would be to send a letter to the students which says when the last day to drop with an automatic W is. Anything more, she said, is unnecessary.

Smith said he is always open to suggestions from students and faculty on how to improve the system, but he believes people will adjust.

"I would suggest you give it a little time and see," he said. "Most people don't know enough about it yet."

Lewis said the old program compares with an old country store. "Rarely do you see someone pay for four bags of groceries and only take one," he said. "That is what is happening. Students are not getting the most out of the money they spend on their education."



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Parking Gear

Finding safe, legal spot to park on campus is no easy ride

Early birds catch parking spaces

Karley Lott
Staff Writer

Most students arrive on campus 15 to 30 minutes early each morning to look for a parking space. Those who come late learn it's even harder to find one.

Seventy five percent of the 8,500 students on campus have permits to park in the designated student parking areas.

These areas contain 1,500 parking spaces, according to Campus Safety Cadet Tammy Smith. Cal-

culating the math tells what would-be parkers know — four students with permits could be heading for the same parking place.

Although students arrive and leave campus at different times, from 9 -11 a.m. most students are on campus and spaces are at a premium.

Those who can't find a legal spot park in restricted areas such as faculty and handicapped parking.

When a student decides to park in the restricted ar-

reas they are choosing to get a ticket, Smith said. Officers write 75 to 100 parking tickets daily that range in price from \$7 to \$50. Those paying cash can go to the cashier's office and those paying with checks should take them to the Campus Safety Office.

While some students think the campus needs a parking garage, Physical Plant Director Bill Parker pointed out that it would cost \$10,000 per space to build a garage.



Campus officers give out auto safety tips to students

Eric Walton
Staff Writer

Even though the auto theft rate has not increased at TJC,

Campus Safety Officer Lynn Guthrie still emphasizes the importance of auto safety.

Many mechanisms have been developed to decrease auto theft. Guthrie believes an auto deterrent such as "The Club" is more theft-proof than an alarm.

"Alarms are an unreliable resource since they are a part of everyday noises. Most people walk right on by," Guthrie said.

"People who steal cars are looking for the quick in and

out," Guthrie said. "So just find a mechanism that works for you."

Students have more common auto problems than theft: keys locked in the car, a flat tire or a dead battery. Campus officers will unlock stu-

dents' cars if their keys are locked inside, and they will also boost cars with dead batteries, Guthrie said. These services are available if the weather permits.

Campus Safety no longer helps students with flat tires because it takes so much time and manpower. Their office is open seven days a week, 24 hours a day.



Staff photo

HELPING HAND — Commercial art major Steven Harris changes a flat for Clyde Graves, a freshman psychology major, in one of the handicapped parking spaces behind Potter Hall.

CAUGHT AGAIN — Campus Safety Officer Beth Russell catches a student for a parking violation in the student parking lot behind Potter Hall.

Use of handicapped parking spaces limited to permits

Eric Walton
Staff Writer

Vehicles must have special license plates or a removable windshield identification card placed on the rearview mirror to park legally in a handicapped parking space, according to the Texas Criminal and Vehicle Handbook.

Unfortunately, some people park in designated handicap parking spaces, break the law and find themselves with a fine or warning. They also block the path of someone who legitimately needs that space.

Parking so a vehicle blocks an access or curb ramp or any other improvement designed to aid the disabled

is also an offense pun-

These offenses, misdemeanors, carry fines of up to \$75 in Tyler and \$50 on TJC campus.

"We do catch people every now and then who use other people's permits and even some that were lost and stolen," Campus Safety Officer Lynn Guthrie said.

"We do catch people every now and then who use other people's permits and even found some that were lost and stolen," Campus Safety Officer Lynn Guthrie said.

Trashy dreams

Benton hopes to start up new Recycling Coalition

Carla Bass
Staff Writer

From digging aluminium cans out of garbage pails, freshman Bryan Benton will have worked his way up to founding the TJC Recycling Coalition when this group meets for the first time at 10 a.m. Nov. 2 in Potter 001.

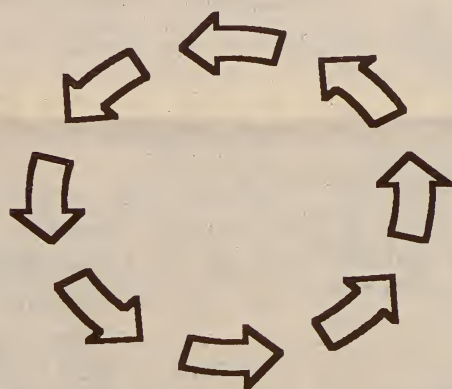
Benton hopes that this group, which has not been officially chartered yet, can cut down on the amount of recyclable materials that are being thrown away. He also plans to united the fragmented groups and individuals already participating in recycling on campus.

"When I first got here, I was new to campus and I would be amazed by how many cans were being thrown away," Benton said. "My mother always recycled at home and I guess I just carried it with me to TJC."



Photo by Eric Walton

DON'T JUST TOSS IT — Students Cliff Cain and Christopher Green add a box full of old TJC News issues to one of the new recycling bins on campus. Freshman Bryan Benton hopes to increase this type of activity by starting the Recycling Coalition.



Benton, who lives in Bateman Hall, organized a small recycling effort in his dorm which developed into a plan for this club when he was approached by resident advisor Derek Strain, a sophomore finance major.

"One of Bryan's tactics was that he would go after people and pick up their cans when they would throw them in

the trash or just leave them," Strain said. "I caught him doing this one day."

Strain offered to help set up a recycling organization up if Benton would head the effort. They contacted Life Sciences Instructor Joe Shannon and Biology Instructor Jeff Robertson, who agreed to sponsor the group.

During the meeting, which is open to all students, Benton plans to discuss the phases of his recycling strategy. First, he wants to place aluminium can

recycling bins in all residential halls. Next, the group would spread these bins across campus before introducing paper and then plastic recycling bins. Finally, the main product that Benton hopes to recycle is the group itself.

"When this (the Coalition) gets off the ground, we don't want it to just be here when I'm here," Benton said. "If I come back in 10 years, I want it to still be here."

Minority group revives membership

Tiffany O'Neal
Staff Writer

Minority Student Association is a campus group founded in 1991 to bring all minorities together.

Participation dwindled and the organization became inactive. Last year with the help of Staff Aide Earnest McAllister, Geneva Buchanan Residential Life Hall Specialist, and Sophomore Chara Stephenson this group re-

organized.

Stephenson decided TJC needed a positive activity to include minorities and help bring TJC students closer. McAllister agreed to sponsor MSA and Stephenson took it from there. She invited friends and told people about it. Soon the first meeting was established.

MSA colors are purple and gold. Purple stands for the royalty and riches. Gold stands for the glow that

members should shower others by their actions. MSA's goal is to learn about other minority inventors, musicians, writers, singers, actors, actresses, performers and artists. To become more involved in the community, learn how to find good jobs and the right way to go about it are other goals.

The approximately 30 members would welcome others. For more information contact Stephenson at ext.



Photo by Connie Conner

Rusnell writes up yet another driver for a and the Maintenance Building.

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Because of state regulations, the college issues a regular student parking sticker in conjunction with the specialized license plates or placard.

Students who temporarily need more accessible parking space on campus can bring a letter from their doctor stating the nature of the injury and the length of time a permit is required. Campus Safety will issue them a temporary faculty parking permit.

"I would just like to ask the students to have a little consideration for the people who have trouble," Guthrie said. "Don't abuse the system. Be thankful for what you have."

Gospel Choir has spirit

Tawnya Moore
Staff Writer

Gospel Choir is a coed group of 50 students who like to sing.

"The purpose for the choir is to give a lot of students from a spiritual and gospel background something to do while they are away from home," choir member Tammi Hannah said.

Hannah, a 19-year-old from Dallas, is accustomed to getting in the spirit with gospel music because her dad is a preacher. The Choir makes her feel more comfortable, she said.

The fees for the gospel choir are optional. They can buy choir T-shirts. The choir members buy their own robes if their funds permit.

Choir president is Ptolemy Stegall and Pamela London is their sponsor. Members work for their donations and they pay however much they want to give. The dues go toward any extra expenses that the choir may have.

"Practices are from 7p.m. to 9p.m. on Tuesday's and Thursday's in the Wise Auditorium," said Tammi.

Groundsmen keep campus beautiful

Kellie Jones
Staff Writer

The campus groundsmen take a lot of pride in their work. Working on the campus lawns, trees and flowerbeds is no easy task. It requires a lot of hard work, discipline and patience.

The 11 groundsmen do just about everything dealing with the campus-watering, picking up trash and moving furniture. They work all year round.

The massive campus of 75 acres takes at least two days to mow. "When the weather is warm, the groundsmen usually keep it cut at least twice a week," Bill Parker said.

Groundsman Randy Warren does the yard work.

Groundsman Leo Hartsfield has been here for 15 years. "My job is real rewarding and I gain a lot of satisfaction," he said.

Physical Plant Director Bill Parker has been working here for 16 years.

"This campus has never looked better," Parker said. "The groundsmen do an excellent job, although we are short of workers."

The groundsmen have many different roles to play.

Grounds Maintenance Supervisor Richard Clark installs sprinkler systems and plants grass.

Kevin Lampin keeps the trees trimmed and Hartsfield keeps the campus and parking lots clean.

They wish students would take little bit more pride in the campus. When they leave trash on the grounds, the groundsmen have to come right behind them and clean up.

Mrs. Baird's introduces Texas Tortillas

Nancy J. Garcia
Staff Writer

Janet Baird Quisenberry introduced Mrs. Baird's Texas Tortillas to English, speech and journalism students last Friday in Jean Browne Theatre, their largest new product launcher in 80 years.

Quisenberry's great grandmother, Ninnie L. Baird was the original Mrs. Baird. When she became a widow at a young age, she baked bread for her Fort Worth neighbors to support her eight children. Her four sons delivered her bread on foot. After the demand grew outside their neighborhood, they used the family coach to deliver. The business expanded into 150 variations of baked goods. Baird's is the largest family-owned bakery in the country.

Tortillas were introduced in West Texas, Lubbock, Fort Worth and Dallas, Houston and South Texas and Waco earlier this year. The new product was introduced to East Texas during the Rose Festival.

Trick-rope artist Burt Hairgrove advertises Mrs. Baird's Texas Tortillas in his first commercial appearance.

He demonstrated rope tricks which appeared in the 30-second commercial spotlighting Hairgrove spelling out "tortillas" and "Mrs. Baird's" with his lasso while praising the goodness of Mrs. Baird's Texas

emerging from the mainstream of food," Laura Kaleck, group account director at Tracy-Locke Advertising, in Dallas, said. She has worked on Mrs. Baird's account for 10 years.

Consumers are looking for freshness, quality and a unique way of marketing tortillas. Our only competitors are Mission Tortillas and homemade ones, Kaleck said.

The tortillas have been on the market only four months in packages of 10. "In following weeks the package may include 20, Quisenberry said.

"Family involvement is unique to the industry," said Quisenberry who now directs the advertising for the company.

Mrs. Baird's philosophy is, "Make a better loaf of bread today than you made yesterday." "We bake the best loaf of bread

possible, build on an 85(and counting) year tradition and we deliver on our promise of quality, freshness and services," Quisenberry said.

Tortillas. A native of Timpson, Hairgrove graduated from Stephen F. Austin State University with a bachelor of science in agriculture.

"Tortillas were a product



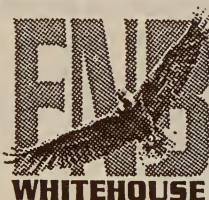
Photo by Nancy J. Garcia
LASSOED IN—Rope artist Burt Hairgrove shows Janet Baird Quisenberry, his Wedding Ring rope trick, which he will use on a commercial for Mrs. Baird's new product Texas Tortillas.

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Free self-help workshops to begin

Lucia Dulin Hawkins
Staff Writer

Free workshops are planned next month on campus to meet students' requests for help. Support Services and Career Development surveys indicated that good grades and job search strategies are priorities.

"Job Search Strategies," 2 to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 7 will teach participants to conduct job searches and what skills and experience employers want.

"How to make A's and B's," 2 to 4:30 p.m. Nov. 8. Students will get tips on strategies to improve grades.

"Be ready for the interview," 2 to 4:30 p.m. Nov. 21. will prepare for interviews and make resumes.

"If only I knew what I wanted to do...," 12:30 to 3 p.m. Nov. 28, 30 and Dec. 5, 7. will help in choosing a major and making career decisions.

Workshops meet in Pirtle



Photo by Lucia Dulin Hawkins

SIGNING UP- Special Populations Counselor Melinda Coker schedules Sophomore Andrew Marshall in her office for upcoming workshops

Special Populations Counselor Melinda Coker urges students to make reservations early for these workshops by calling 510-2395 or going to Rogers Student Center Room 258. Non-students are encouraged to attend. They pay \$10 for four one-day sessions and \$25 for the four-day session.

The student survey showed stress management is another priority. A list of videos and books available for students to

purchase can be obtained through Support Services, Coker said.

Support groups for image and weight control began meeting for one hour from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. from Oct. 20 and will continue until Dec. 8.

Depression and exercise support groups will meet on the same days from 4 to 5 p.m. Fridays. These meetings are available to all students away from extended families and friends for \$15 each.

College hopes for cash

Texas Legislature may vote next week to send \$370,000 to TJC. If TJC receives the proposed funds, they will be used to complete some projects begun with other funds and to obtain the newest available technology in distance education. Legislators will vote Friday.

TJC plans to use \$190,000 to establish a two-way video network with up to three off-campus sites for "live" course delivery. This means students outside Tyler could complete lecture courses such as government, English and psychology without having to drive to campus. The instructor can teach multiple classrooms from one place and interact with students and students can interact with each other even though one may be in Whitehouse and the other in Van, for example.

"This technology has been around a while and we're excited to be able to take advantage of it," TJC President Dr. Bill Crowe said.

"About \$90,000 is earmarked for upgrading TJC's video production facilities to create prepackaged instructional materials and courseware for distance education delivery," Learning Resources Dean Dr. Mickey Slimp said. The video production team in the basement of the Vaughn Library uses an outdated format for video production. They need to come up to industry standards. Their plans include new editing equipment and new cameras using the Betacam format. The new equipment will allow them to produce instructional material to be used on a computer system.

Another \$30,000 would be used to prepare the TJC library catalog for electronic distribution.

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Close Up Photo students win awards

Stephanie Kirby
Staff Writer

Graphic arts and photography students were recognized for their outstanding achievements in the 1995 East Texas Fair photography contest recently. Winning photos are on display in Vaughn.

First place winners are: Robert Smith, macro/closeup and scenic; Lum Newburn IV

and Michelle Wiesner, pets; Martha Heard, Texas highways; Peggy North, silhouette/sunset and scenic; Christa Kelley, macro/closeup and Kody Moore, lifestyles.

Second places went to: Connie Morris, scenic/vacation; Martha Heard, Texas highways, pets and scenic; Janice McKinney, silhouette/sunset and Kody Moore, portrait.

Foreign film fest starts Tuesday

Carla Bass
Staff Writer

Those tired of typical overplayed and overrated weeknight flicks on television may find a little cultural enlightenment in the annual foreign film series which starts next week.

The series opens with "Like Water for Chocolate" at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in Apache Room 1, Rogers Student Cen-

ter. Admission is free.

This award-winning Mexican film depicts life during the revolutionary 1910s and 1920s in northern Mexico, Spanish Instructor John Hays said.

Nov. 28 at the same time and location, viewers can watch Marcel Pagnol's as he develops a renewed love and appreciation for family in the French film "My Mother's Castle."

Students learn in tropical paradise

Tiffany O'neal
Staff Writer

Anatomy and Physiology Instructor Jeff Robertson took the Environmental Science class to Jamaica for a four hour science course with an emphasis on marine biology last summer. The nine students, seven from TJC, spent two weeks here getting acquainted, learning to scuba dive and snorkel. Many had never before put on a scuba diving suit or been in salt water.

For \$977 they got tuition, airplane tickets, three meals a day, hotel, lab and boat fees. They stayed on a college campus in Jamaica for 10 days.

"Before we got there, the students thought they would be staying in an exclusive hotel but when we got there it was a different story," Robertson said. "The students went crazy. There was no TV, no amusement, no restaurants and the food that was served

daily was very spicy. The meats Jamaicans eat are chicken, pork, fish and goat."

The students expected to be around people like themselves, but soon found this to be wrong. "All the people were black and spoke with British accents," Robertson said.

"They found a big difference in the environment. There is always a breeze outside, but it is very hot on the inside and there are no air conditioners, only ceiling fans," he said.

Jamaica was chosen for this study, he said, because they needed a lab in the Caribbean.

Two marine biologists live on the campus there. Their job is to work with the students and to assist them with their projects.

In their spare time they visited a small town called Brownstown where only Jamaicans reside. This trip was interesting because they saw a part of Jamaica not shown on

travel commercials in the United States.

They saw little children roaming the streets with contented faces, people selling their goods on the streets for very little money and most importantly they got to see how blessed we really are, Robertson said.

They hiked in the mountains with a native Jamaican who eats only natural things. They saw how he appreciated the earth and all of the things that were made on it.

Robertson believes the trip is worth the cost. Anyone interested in taking this four-hour transferable course can contact Robertson at 510-2216.

"We have it made here and we don't realize it. We take a lot for granted. The people over there are very poor, and cherish the things we take for granted, but they are very content in their own lifestyles," Robertson said.



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